

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 /067 W

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R 131713Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1803

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, GW, US

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG

REF: BONN 15066

1. LOCKHEED ISSUE, WHICH REVIVED WITH FRG ANNOUNCEMENT THAT MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ERKEL WOULD GO TO US TO NEGOTIATE TURN-OVER OF DOCUMENTS HELD BY USG, CONTINUES TO OCCUPY PRESS IN FRG. AT PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 10, ACCORDING TO AMERICAN REPORTER WHO WAS PRESENT, NEWSMEN KEPT GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ON SUBJECT FOR AN ENTIRE HOUR TRYING TO FOLLOW UP REPORT IN FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU SEPTEMBER 9 THAT DM 3.5 MILLION COMMISSION ON SALE OF F-104 G'S WAS PAID TO DEUTSCHE COMMERZ GMBH, LOCKHEED AGENCY IN FRG, AND TO FRED MEUSER, A LOCKHEED LOBBYIST STATIONED IN SWITZERLAND. REPORTEDLY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN SHOWED SOME CONFUSION UNDER PRESS QUESTIONING, WITH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE SAYING IT WAS CUSTOMARY TO PAY COMMISSIONS ON SALES AND BEING CONTRADICTED BY THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE CHANCELLOR KLAUS BOELLING WHO SAID SUCH COMMISSIONS HAD BEEN AGAINST FRG POLICY SINCE 1961.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS THE COMMISSIONS WERE PAID BY
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LOCKHEED, BUT WERE ADDED TO THE BILL PRESENTED TO THE

FRG. REPORTEDLY THIS WAS DISCOVERED BY GOVERNMENT
AUDITORS WHO QUESTIONED THEIR LEGITIMACY.

3. FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE SEPTEMBER 11 REPORTS STATEMENT
BY CSU SPOKESMAN THAT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PAID NO
COMMISSIONS ON F-104 G SALES. LOCKHEED DID PAY SOMETHING
TO ITS AGENTS AND THIS WAS PART OF THE COST TO THE FRG,
BUT SUCH PAYMENT WAS NORMAL PRACTICE AND PROVIDED FOR
IN USG PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, CORRUPTION, LOBBYING, PRESS CONFERENCES, NEGOTIATIONS, INFORMATION CONTROL, BUSINESS FIRMS, AIRCRAFT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN15353
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760345-0579
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760968/aaaacgdv.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BONN 15066
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG
TAGS: MASS, GE, US, LOCKHEED
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006